

the world might be able to support a larger population in reasonable comfort. But, anyway, forecasts of the state of the world in a distant future are not very profitable, and we know a good deal about our own difficulties in this island which are not likely to disappear in the near future.

India has been mentioned; there is a general agreement that increasing population pressure is resulting in a reduction of the already meagre amount of food available for the mass of the people. Mr. Bertram has some remarks which are much to the point as to the physical impossibility of keeping the population of India stationary by means of migration.

There is a sensible paragraph about a possible redistribution of the peoples of the British Commonwealth. And there is a brief discussion of the question of an optimum population, ending with the remark that there is presumably an optimum age structure. It may be hoped that this is not a hint that some of us live too long!

This Occasional Paper is a useful outline sketch of the present state of discussion of a vitally important subject.

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## ANTHROPOLOGY

**Hooton, Earnest Albert.** *Up from the Ape*. Revised edition. New York, 1946, and London, 1948. Macmillan. Pp. xii + 788. Price 25s.

THE new edition of this well-known treatise, which first appeared in 1931 and the title of which by no means indicates its formidable scope, is very welcome. Professor Hooton's gift of synthesizing the often abstruse materials of physical anthropology and human biology and presenting them in easily assimilated form for the inquiring layman and the student alike remains as prodigious as ever. One could wish occasionally for a less flippant attitude towards the subject than that expressed in sectional headings and footnotes, because the interest of the text is absorbing enough to dispense with strained gaiety in the one and instances of

poor versification (not the author's), even by undergraduate standards, in the other.

The book is divided into six parts: Man's Relations; The Primate Life Cycle; The Individual Life Cycle; Fossil Ancestors and Collaterals; Heredity and Race; and The Anthropometry of the Individual, and, besides an excellent bibliography, contains an appendix on the elements of anthropometry with useful hints on sexing and ageing skeletal remains. Readers of Professor Hooton's *Man's Poor Relations*\* will be aware of his able digest of the scattered literature relating to subhuman primates, and the fruits of this study have been incorporated in the first two parts of the present work. In the second of them appears a balanced discussion of one of the crucial problems of anthropogenesis. Is man, with his upright stance, derived from a common ape-human stock which was arboreal and practised brachiation, or were his ancestors pronograde ground-dwellers which, unlike the apes, forebore from returning to the trees? The position Professor Hooton adopts, details of which must be sought in his pages, is a compromise between these two opposed views.

Part III of the book considers embryology, growth, adolescence, maturity and procreation, senescence and death, with comments on sexual differences in man and other higher primates and a terse but lucid description of the oestrous cycle in the latter. Part IV deals with reinterpretations of old evidence and recent developments in the field of palæontology, not omitting that of the catarrhine monkeys and apes. Like the writer of this review, Professor Hooton felt that the case for the antiquity of the Galley Hill skeleton was a strong one. Flourine tests carried out on the bones during the past eighteen months, however, have shown such an opinion to be incorrect. The Baker's Hole skull, apparently a real "ancient modern," is not mentioned by the author, doubtless owing to the scanty attention that has been accorded it by specialists. There is a brief account of von Koenigswald's remarkable finds of giant hominids in Java and southern

\* New York, Doubleday, 1942.

China, but the discovery at Fontéchevade (Charente) in 1947 by Mlle G. Henri-Martin of the Tayacian calotte with *sapiens*-like features, yet antecedent to Neanderthal Man, was made too late for inclusion.\* This is particularly regrettable from Professor Hooton's point of view, since he has always been a powerful advocate of the venerable age of members of our own species.

In Part V Professor Hooton outlines the principles of genetics and then treats in detail the physical and physiological factors of race (including blood groups), and racial pathology, classification and history, concluding with some sane and temperate remarks on miscegenation and "racial quality." It is unlikely that all or most of the faculty will see eye-to-eye with him in his taxonomic approach, especially as regards sorting criteria, though this is not a matter of moment. His recognition of an "Arctic" group (or subrace in the terminology he uses), embracing the Eskimo and certain peoples in north-eastern Siberia, as opposed to the assignment of a unique position among the Mongoliforms to the Eskimo, is impressive, but some British anthropologists may feel rather chary of accepting the validity of a distinct "Keltic" subrace, despite the author's admission that the term is a misnomer. This is not to depreciate the immense contribution that Harvard has made to the telling of the rough island story in the persons of Professor Hooton himself and his eminent pupils, Coon, Dupertuis and Howells.

Part VI is largely devoted to an exposition of the Sheldon system of somatotyping, which up to the present has not enjoyed much favour in Great Britain. It also contains a valuable section on the constitutional studies of Draper, with special reference to body build and disease. The appendix to the book is a cheering sign that at least one of the foremost American authorities has remembered Galton and not succumbed to the prevalent fashion in the United States of decrying the value of

anthropometry, though a fuller treatment of the elementary statistics used in the analysis of anthropometric data would have been desirable.

The revised *Up from the Ape* is well illustrated by photographs of subhuman primates and of racial types, but some of the drawings, particularly those of the skull of the Neanderthal Man from La Chapelle-aux-Saints on page 323 and of the Broken Hill (Rhodesian) cranium on page 341, could be replaced with advantage in a subsequent edition.

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## PSYCHOSOCIAL MEDICINE

**Halliday, James L.** *Psychosocial Medicine: A Study of the Sick Society.* London, 1948. William Heinemann. Pp. 278. Price 17s. 6d.

DR. J. L. HALLIDAY has been one of the most prominent of those in this country who have insisted on the importance of emotional disturbances in causing supposedly physical disease. He here carries this point of view regarding individuals into the larger field of society as a whole. He holds that the psychological and social needs of our society are not satisfied, and that it is therefore a sick society, the study and treatment of which may properly be called psychosocial medicine. It is not always clear how Dr. Halliday has determined what should be regarded as the symptoms of social disintegration, or of the preceding stage in the process which he calls social disequilibrium. Thus he holds that a declining birth-rate is a sign of declining psychological health in the nation; he classes together the infertility thus indicated, the rising rate of psychosomatic affections and a rising suicide rate as "manifestations of a progressive frustration of the individual in response to an increasing noxious pressure being exerted by the communal environment regarded psychologically."

An interesting chapter of the book examines the mining community "which during the twentieth century became an

\* The latest description of this specimen has been given by Professor Henri V. Vallois in *Comptes rendus des séances de l'Académie des Sciences*, 228, pp. 598-600, 1949.